



News Release

**U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Paul District**

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Public Affairs

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Twin Cities' residents interested in Mississippi water levels, flows invited to public meeting

SAINT PAUL, MINN. – For Twin Cities' residents who own cabins or enjoy fishing and boating in the Mississippi Headwaters region or are concerned with the amount of water released from the Headwaters to the Twin Cities, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, will host a public meeting on **Monday, June 7**, from **5-7:30 p.m.** at the **Brooklyn Park Library, 8600 Zane Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, Minn.**

The meeting is to introduce Twin Cities' residents to the Corps' and National Forest Service Mississippi River Headwater's Reservoir Operations Plan Evaluation, which is also being called the ROPE Study, and to obtain public input into the development of a new operating plan for the region's reservoir system. The intent of the study is to involve both federal and non-federal dam operators, the public and other stakeholders in the region in flood control issues, environmental concerns, tribal interests, recreational use of the lakes and rivers, navigational and hydropower issues and more.

The meeting will be held in an informal open house format, consisting of a short presentation on the ROPE Study, followed by a session for gathering stakeholder and agency inputs. Participants are welcome to come anytime during the session. The agencies request comments from those person or organizations that may be interested or affected to complete the environmental impact statement required for completion of the ROPE Study.

This is the first time all of the Headwaters reservoirs are being looked at in a system-wide approach and the first time the region's reservoir operating plan has been updated since the 1950s. The ROPE Study, started in early 2002, is expected to last four years and cost around \$3.2 million. For detailed information about the study, see the website devoted to the ROPE study at <http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/finder/display.asp?pageid=143>.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, serves the American public in the areas of environmental enhancement, navigation, flood damage reduction, wetlands regulation, recreation sites and disaster response. It contributes around \$142 million to the five-state district economy. The more than 750 employees work at more than 40 sites in five upper-Midwest states. For more information, see www.mvp.usace.army.mil.